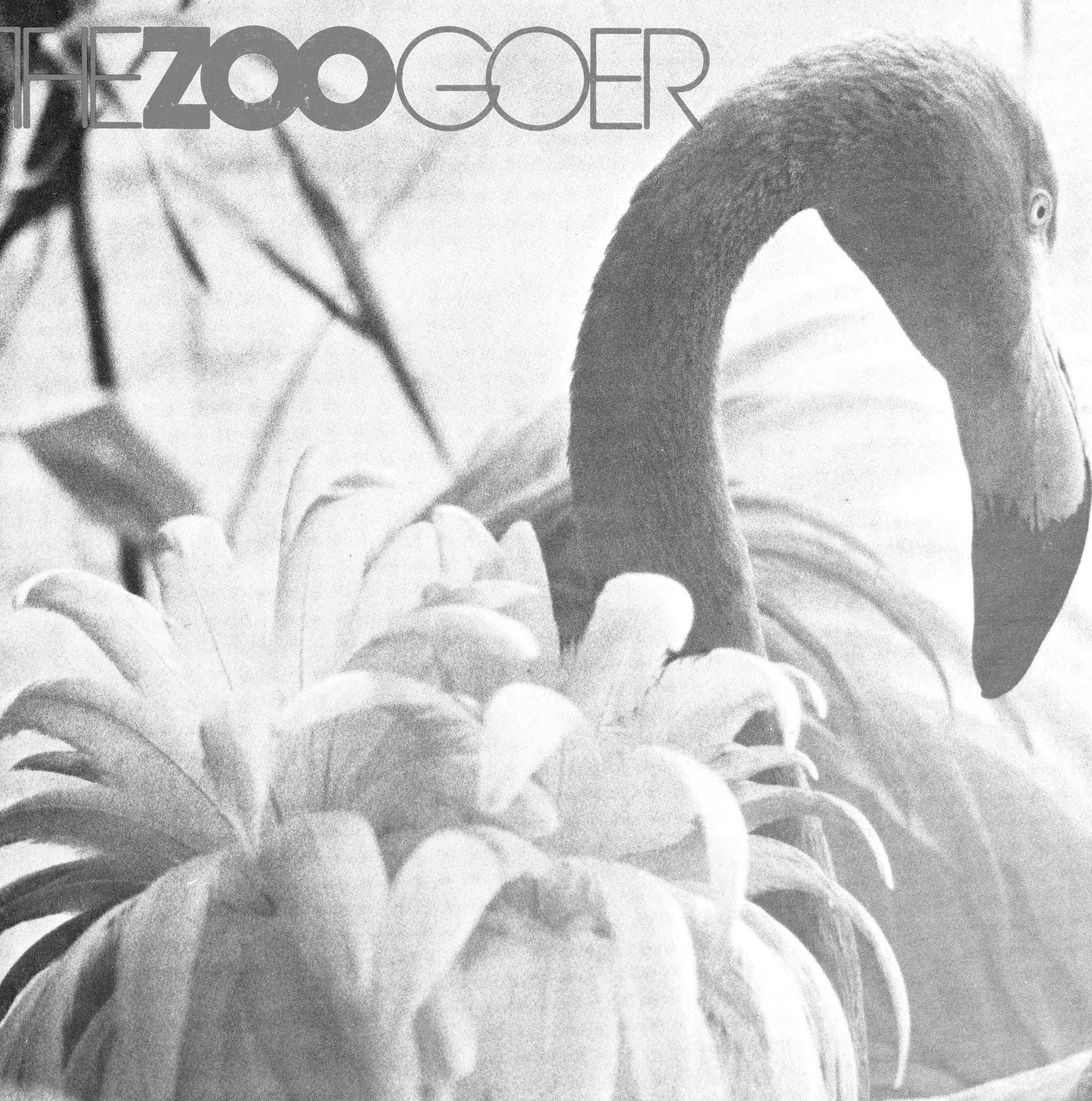


# THE ZOO GOER



# March/April 1975

volume 4, number 2

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Front Cover: The splendid plumage of the flamingo is just one characteristic that makes it the most popular exhibit in the Bird House.

Back cover: Noah in striped pants and mod tie, stars in a striking new poster now on sale at the Zoo Shop. Member's price: \$1.80.

### Production:

Monica Johansen Morgan

Photograph on page 9 by Leo Slaughter; on pages 11, 12, 13, 14, & 17 by Sabin Robbins; all others by Ray Faass.

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The  
Wonderful  
World of  
Parrots

The flamingoes are one of the most popular attractions in the Bird House. Whether this is because of their spectacular looks or their loud voices or their odd behavior is hard to say. Whatever the reason, flamingos have charisma. They provoke a stream of questions. Why do they eat standing on their heads? Why do they stand on one leg? Why do they

dance from one foot to the other? If the public has questions, so do ornithologists. Flamingo's breeding habits are poorly understood. Their migrations are mysterious. And there is still some question whether they should be placed in the same order as the herons, the waterfowl, or one of their own. To a bird with sixty million years of development

Standing on one leg with the other tucked close to the body may look odd, but it's the typical resting position for flamingos. The colorful birds also eat standing on their heads and dance from one foot to the other to make them one of the most popular attractions in the Bird House.



under his belt, it probably seems academic where he is placed. Lewis Carroll made the right choice when he picked the flamingo for Alice's croquet mallet. It is truly the wonderland bird.

### Salty Homeland

The flamingo's real wonderland is a shallow lake or coastal lagoon. These are found from the West Indies to the high Andes, from southern France to Afghanistan, from the Caspian Sea to East Africa. In these lakes and lagoons, a combination of mineral-rich water, intense sun-light and the flamingo's droppings encourage the growth of blue-green algae and crustaceans which feed on algae. The water is salty, almost to saturation at times, but because the flamingo is a filter-feeder he is able to reap a rich harvest in an environment most other animals would find poisonous.

The great Roman-nosed beak, which gives the flamingo that air of ancient wisdom is lined with hair-like projections called lamellae. These lie flat as water is taken in and become erect to strain out food, as the water is forced out. An outer row of coarse guard hairs limit the size of the particle which is retained. Greater and lesser flamingos can feed together without competition, where they share a range, since the hairs have different settings. The lesser feeds on algae at the surface of the water and the greater feeds on insects, crustaceans and organic muck from

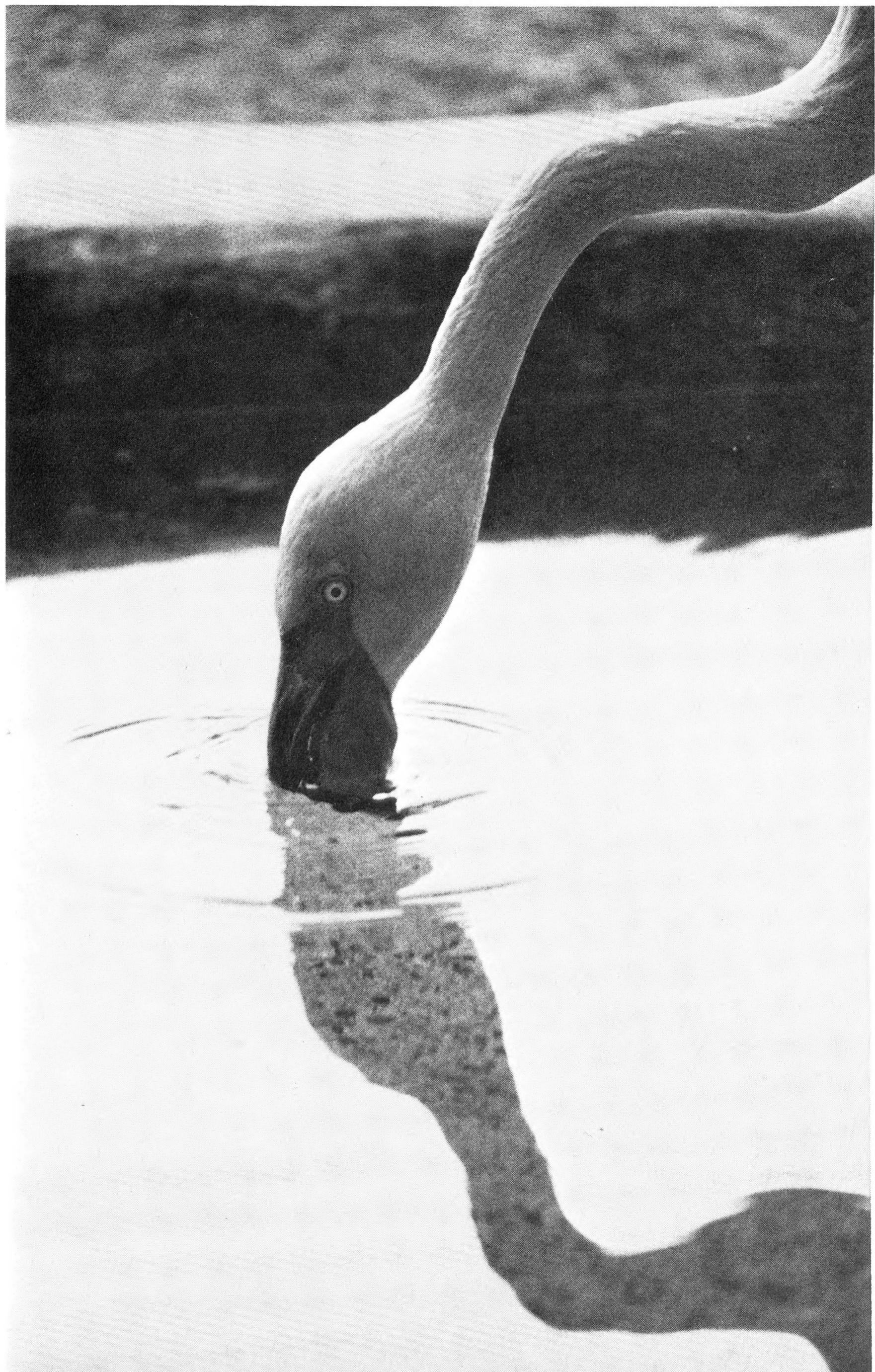
the bottom. The three species of flamingos at the National Zoo are all greater flamingos.

### Food is Filtered

With beaks held upside-down, a line of flamingos moves along. Back goes the thick tongue, in comes the water; forward goes the tongue, out goes the water, leaving the food; back goes the tongue again carrying the first mouthful to the throat by hooks on the tongue; in comes more food laden water. The flamingos may revolve in one spot, shifting from one foot to the other to stir up food from the bottom or break up a salt crust if it is present. Filtering their food in this way, they take in very little salt and this can be excreted by a salt gland which is located in the nasal area. The birds often fly some distance to find fresh water to drink.

The flamingo's beautiful color depends on diet. In the wild, they derive carotenoids, a class of organic pigment, from crustaceans and algae. At the National Zoo, carrot juice and other carotenoid sources are added to trout chow and dried shrimp to keep them from fading into long-legged ghosts. That some are deeper red than others

A great Roman-nosed beak lined with hair-like projections enables the flamingo to strain out his food from the water. Diet includes algae, insects, crustaceans, and organic muck from lake bottoms.



does not mean that they eat more, but that they are different species. Flamingos nest in remote spots, far out on salt flats or on isolated bars and islands. A period of ritualized vocalizing, stretching and preening calls together those of the flock who are ready to breed and pairs are formed. The pair builds a nest, which looks like an up-turned bucket, from mud, shells and grass. The communal impulse is very strong. It stimulates nesting and may also end it, since late nesters may abandon their nests when most of their neighbors have hatched their eggs. The whole nesting may be abandoned if there are floods or excessive disturbance from predators or low-flying aircraft.

### **Chick is White**

Normally, the flamingo lays a single chalky egg, which the parents incubate for about twenty-eight days. When the chick hatches, it is covered with white down and has a small red beak. It stays in the nest for about four days, brooded by the parents and fed with a bright red liquid which the parents secrete in the throat and dribble into the chick's open beak. When the chick leaves the nest, the parents accompany and guard it for several more days, but gradually begin to leave it with others of the same age, while they go to feed. These large "creches" are tended by a few adults. When the parents return, they single out their own chick, perhaps by voice, and



A long, rubbery neck and great Roman-nosed beak give the colorful flamingo an air of ancient wisdom as well as providing the perfect apparatus for sifting food from lake bottoms.

feed it. By three weeks, the chicks are clad in grey down, the contour feathers begin to appear and the beaks begin to bend into adult shape. At ten weeks they can fly, but will not have adult plumage until they are three years old, or breed until they are six.

### **Erratic Nesters**

Flamingos are very erratic in their nesting behavior. They are able to

delay the nesting period for months and may skip one year, or several. Apparently, they wait for certain water levels and perhaps degrees of salinity. They may abandon one nesting ground in favor of another. The flamingo herd of the Camargue in southern France has only nested in sixteen of the thirty-four years of record. This seemingly unproductive behavior may well be a built-in population control device, for flamingos have few predators and a limited environment. Maribou

storks and gulls take some chicks and eagles some adults. Once able to fly, a flamingo may live to be twenty or thirty. Since a successful nesting may produce as many as 100,000 chicks, they could easily out-grow their habitat if they bred every year.

In spite of spectacular success in filling a special niche, flamingos have problems. Audubon found flamingos in Florida and they used to be common in the Ural and Volga River deltas. These colonies are gone. They were common in the Bahamas, but increased development and frequent low-flying planes have reduced these colonies to about one-fifth of their pre-1940 numbers. Other populations are more fortunate. The World Wildlife Fund has purchased land in France which will protect that colony from expanding farming and salt panning. Lake Nakuru in Kenya, which supports two million flamingos at times, is now a national park. Even so, Lake Nakuru is threatened by pollution from towns and farms and the nesting sites are not protected.

It seems that a bird which is able to utilize some of the world's least desirable real estate might be left in peace to fill its place and provide a decorative accent, but remote lakes and tropic salt flats are no longer a sure sanctuary, and the Wonderland Bird is left, resting on one leg, pondering the future.



Spectacular looks, loud voices, and odd behavior combine to make the Zoo's colony of flamingos the most popular exhibit in the Bird House.

by Sally Tongren  
FONZ Docent

## A Spring Progress Report From The Conservation And Research Center

Spring at Front Royal has brought a flurry of outdoor activity that was prohibited or decelerated by winter weather and frozen or soggy ground. Since December the animal collection has doubled in size and four paddocks have been fenced in totaling 175 acres. Preparation of these new hoof stock quarters required the gutting and refurbishing of two H-shaped horse stables built in 1928 and 1937 and containing over 10,000 square feet each. The dividing fence layout was planned so that each barn lies at the boundary of two paddocks. Over  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile of pipe was necessary to convert the barns' water supplies from local springs to the central 400,000 gallon system.

### Camels at Midnight

Completion of the first of these paddocks was announced by the

midnight arrival on December 21 of a herd of eight Bactrian camels jointly owned by the Minnesota Zoological Garden and NZP. Another pair of camels from the Cleveland Zoo included NZP born "Maria" whose birth 12 years ago resulted from pioneering hormone therapy to her parents. Our first birth on April 9, a male Bactrian camel for obvious reasons number "Number 1", is growing at the remarkable rate of 2 lbs./day.

The timing of spring animal shipments was determined by the completion dates of paddocks and barns and the need to make transfers during mild weather. It took several trips to move a pair of bongo and five Grant's zebra to the Center. After settling into their new 45-acre paddock, a filly and a colt were born to two of the zebras. Stallion Fred was the last zebra to arrive at the Center, and he made it just in time to launch next year's generation during the mare's foal heats—which occur 9 days after foaling. A trio of Eld's deer born at NZP last year arrived in early May.

### Wolves Next

The work that began in late winter on the South American canid facility is now nearing completion. Located in two wings of a converted colt stable, it will house maned wolves, bush dogs, and

crab-eating foxes. Two pairs of each species are scheduled to arrive by June. The facility includes a series of outdoor runs and indoor dens. Centrally located encounter areas and observation booth will be used this summer by Dr. Kleiman and Ohio University student Charles Brady.

March and April was also green thumb time with 20,000 white and loblolly pine seedlings planted near paddocks and barns for future shade, windbreaks, and visual barriers. In areas inaccessible to the planting rig, planting was done by 5th and 6th grade 4-H volunteers. A small bamboo plantation was also started to supply future food needs for both pandas and hoofstock.

By early summer the herds will have certainly increased by additional births of Pere David deer and zebra, and hopefully scimitar-horned oryx. July will make the first anniversary of animal occupancy, for it will then be a year since the foundling herd of Pere David deer was established at the Center.

**by Dr. Christen Wemmer  
Curator in Charge**

Growing at the rate of two pounds a day, the first-born Bactrian camel at the Front Royal Center brings the NZP two hump camel herd up to eleven, largest in North America. The baby was appropriately named "Number 1."



## Zoo Acquires Rare Cuban Crocodiles

The four Cuban crocodiles recently acquired by the National Zoo are representatives of one of the seven species of endangered crocodilians. Cuban crocodiles are one of the most distinctive and atypical of crocodiles. They are quite stocky with an extremely heavy dorsal armor, have unusually large scales on the legs, a conspicuous bony elevation behind the eyes, and a number of skeletal features unique among members of the genus *Crocodylus* (crocodiles.)

The newly arrived Cuban crocodiles are housed in B-2 of the Reptile House. They are exceptionally active for captive crocodilians; not only are they quite aggressive at feeding time, but there also appears to be a dominance hierarchy established among the individuals. The larger have been observed chasing the smallest individual away from preferred basking sites. The result is that the smallest is frequently seen basking near the front of the enclosure or even adjacent to the glass, far from the others. Cuban crocodiles have a reputation for aggressiveness when housed in captivity with other crocodilians. The Zoo's specimens

have been seen making threatening "gestures," toward their neighbors, the Chinese alligators. Another readily observable behavioral trait of this species is the method of walking on land, with the body raised high off the ground.

Within historic times, Cuban crocodiles have only inhabited a few fresh-water swamps of southwestern Cuba and the adjacent Isle of Pines. Most records are from the Zapata Swamp. During the Pleistocene, such swamps were apparently more widespread in southern Cuba and the ancestors of the Cuban crocodile had a more extensive range. Fossil remains of these reptiles and giant ground sloths they preyed upon have been found together.

As with other crocodilians with restricted ranges and habitats, little is known of the biology of this species in the wild. A very few papers, largely anecdotal in nature, comprise the scientific literature on *Crocodylus rhombifer*. Most authors that have studied this species mention the habitat separation of Cuban crocodiles and the widely ranging (but also rapidly disappearing) American crocodiles, which also occur in southern Cuba. American crocodiles are typically limited to the brackish water of

estuaries and river mouths, and practically never came into contact with the fresh-water Cuban crocodile prior to human intervention. In the last century, however, heavy exploitation of the American crocodile has altered the natural situation and the two species were reputed by Cuban hidehunters to mingle in some areas and interbreed.

The number of Cuban crocodiles left in the wild has been noticeably decreasing since near the turn of the century, as their swampy home is increasingly drained and turned to agricultural use. In a laudable attempt to save the species from impending extinction, the Cuban government collected a large number of these animals in the late 1960's and has attempted to breed them in captivity, according to the reports of crocodilian specialists. However, some American crocodiles were apparently housed with them and interbreeding is believed to have occurred. Fortunately, this situation has since been corrected.

Hopefully, the Zoo's young Cuban crocodiles, after maturing in captivity, may breed and provide information useful in attempts to save them from extinction.

by Tom Keefer  
Keeper, Reptile Unit

## FONZ Volunteers Assist In Panda Mating Effort

During late April and early May, a concerted effort was made to mate the giant pandas. FONZ volunteers played an important role in conducting a panda watch during the crucial period leading up to and during the mating period.

In a memo thanking the FONZ panda watchers, Dr. Devra G. Kleiman, the Zoo's reproduction zoologist, reported as follows:

I think that the results from this watch (from April 21 to May 4) are the most significant ones we have obtained due to the fact that we were able to chart the behavior of the male and female as she entered heat and during the period of strong estrus. The first week's watch occurred as the female was entering heat and the activity of both animals was remarkably different from the March watch. The onset of heat was clearly demonstrated by an increase in the pacing of both the male and female and an increase in scent marking. The differences from March were so noticeable that toward the end of the first week's watch we almost felt as though the female had gone through her period of heat and we had missed the chance to introduce the ani-



Based on the encouraging encounters this spring, NZP zoologists expect the giant pandas to mate successfully in 1976 or 1977.

mals. However, the first day of real estrous behavior did not occur until the 30th of April, Wednesday, when the female began to present to the male. During the remainder of the week, we were introducing the animals on a daily basis between approximately 7 and 10 a.m. and again between 5 and 8 p.m. Thus some of the watchers were able to observe Ling Ling and Shing Hsing during encounters.

The fact that there was so much activity during the week prior to

true heat suggests that at this time pandas are probably wandering considerable distances through their territories under normal conditions and perhaps establishing a consort relationship before the female is fully in estrus. You probably know that the pair did not mate this year, but the change in the behavior of the male from last year was extremely encouraging and we would expect a successful mating either in 76 or 77. A baby panda born in the bicentennial year would seem to be the best contribution that the zoo could make.

## Rare Bird Hatches In Bird House

The sun bittern, a rare bird from Central and South America is even more rarely bred in captivity. Like many feathered species it has dietary idiosyncrasies that must be

catered to for successful breeding in captivity. The Zoo's sun bitterns are given a specially prepared and measured menu of mealworms, meat, earthworms, crickets, and ground hard boiled eggs sprinkled with calcium lactate.

Recently, the pair in the Bird



House successfully incubated and raised their first chick. After 27 days in shell, the chick hatched in an advanced state of development. Its body was covered with down, its eyes were wide open, and it was immediately able to accept food from its parents' bills.

A complicated pattern of blue-grey feathers mixed with earthy browns identifies the pigeon-sized bird. The protective coloration is so effective that they go all but unnoticed while foraging for insects on the forest floor.

While walking, sun bitterns extend their head first, then after a definite pause, the rest of the body moves forward. By holding the head still for just a second, the bird is believed to more easily detect moving objects.

The sun bittern is noted for its dramatic and unusual display. The body is lowered, the tail is broadly fanned, and the wings are spread out to reveal striking patterns of bright reddish browns tipped in black. It is from the sunburst-like shape of these patterns that the name "sun bittern" has come.

by Will Peratino  
Keeper, Bird Unit

Under the watchful eye of the parent sun bittern, the first-born chick explores its new home in the Bird House. The rare bird from Central and South America is rarely bred in captivity.



The  
**ZOO'S FEEDbag**

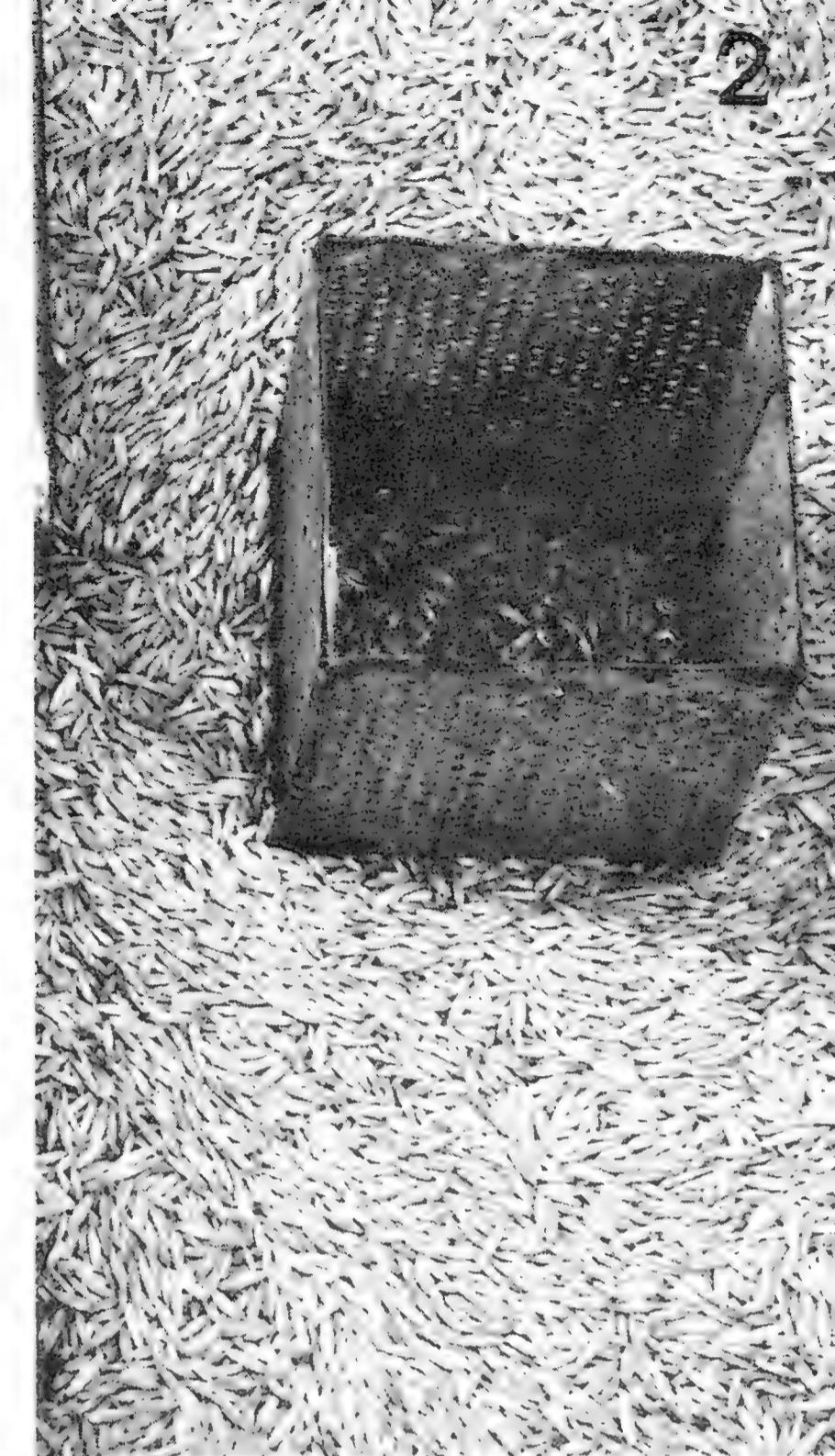


Every 12 months the men who work in the Zoo's commissary prepare a grocery list for the upcoming fiscal year. Like everyone they begin with the basics: 10,400 pounds of meat and 21,000 pounds of potatoes. They add the staples, 300 tons of hay, 315 tons of grain. Then the list is garnished with little things that mean a lot when preparing food — 520,000 maggots, 884,000 crickets. When the list is finished the cost is estimated for the upcoming budget. This past year it was \$245,000, which isn't bad when you consider that it feeds 2,400 animals for an entire year. Some, like the elephants, can really put food away — like 150 pounds of grain, vegetables, grass, and hay a day! Others are more finicky. A baby lizard's entire day's diet may consist of an occasional maggot.

To facilitate management, the Zoo is divided into the five animal areas — north, south, central mammals; reptiles, and birds. Each area is run by a curator who is responsible for the animals, the keepers, and the facilities within the area. The curators, with advice from the veterinarians and keepers choose the menu for each of their animals. The commissary has to find the suppliers, then purchase, store, prepare, and deliver the appropriate food to the keepers.

On previous page: a sample of the commercially prepared diets now available to zoos.

Commissary steward, Wayne Johnson, prepares oxtails for jaguars and hyenas.



1. Eggs boiling and rice pudding for bear cubs;  
2. oat seeds soaking for hydroponics;  
3. meal worms; 4. sacks of grain.



What animal demands the best available food? "They all do," explains Moses Benson, the commissary manager. It's obvious if you have ever watched the commissary workers bring in the groceries. The Zoo orders fresh produce from the same commercial grocery dealers as many of the supermarkets. At the ebb of last year's apple season, visitors could watch a keeper open a cold storage crate of apples, remove the packing and blue paper from the individually wrapped pieces of fruit, and throw a half-bushel in each bear cage. Those apples would sell for 20 cents each in the grocery store at that time of year. The commissary gets canned goods like fruit cocktail and blueberries from government warehouses. Grains and some commercial livestock foods come from agricultural feed stores.

Night crawlers, meal worms, maggots and some of the more exotic sounding foods are surprisingly easy to obtain. But locating peas in the pod all year round and fresh sugar cane can give George Adams, the purchasing agent, indigestion.

The food most relished by many of the Zoo's animals would likely be found in a crack in the kitchen wall. Mice and rats are provided for many of the small carnivorous mammals, birds of prey, reptiles and even some amphibians. About 96,000 are consumed year. Most of the mice are kept frozen in one of the cold storage rooms and sent out daily to the animal areas.



Moses Benson, commissary manager, inspects the roots of hydroponic grass.

A relatively new development in feeding captive animals has simplified zoo shopping greatly. It is now

possible to buy specially formulated economical diets for many of the exotic animals. For example, com-

mercially prepared feline diets cost about half as much per pound as the slab horsemeat they replaced. No supplements such as vitamins and minerals have to be added. And because of their excellent balance smaller portions meet the animals' requirements.

The commissary is cost conscious. To beat rising costs, the Zoo grows its own grass — hydroponically. Hydroponics is growing plants in water rather than soil. If handled correctly plants grow very quickly. In only eight days the commissary turns oat seed into a luscious, five-inch tall carpet of green grass. The hydroponic grass is twice the weight of the original grain. The animals seem to love all of it — sprouts, seeds, and roots. Hydroponic grass is rich in moisture and food value. Hydroponics save the Zoo thousands of dollars on the cost of fresh greens. Plans to triple the size of the present operation are underway.

The next time you are in the zoo and watch the keepers shovel 100 pounds of frozen trout to the bears or see a hoopoe gobble up a meal worm, you'll realize what's involved in providing suitable diets for the Zoo's large and varied collection of animals. For the eight men who work in the National Zoo's commissary, running Rive Gauche would be duck soup!

by Michael Morgan  
Interpretive Assistant

## CROSS SECTION OF ANIMAL DIETS

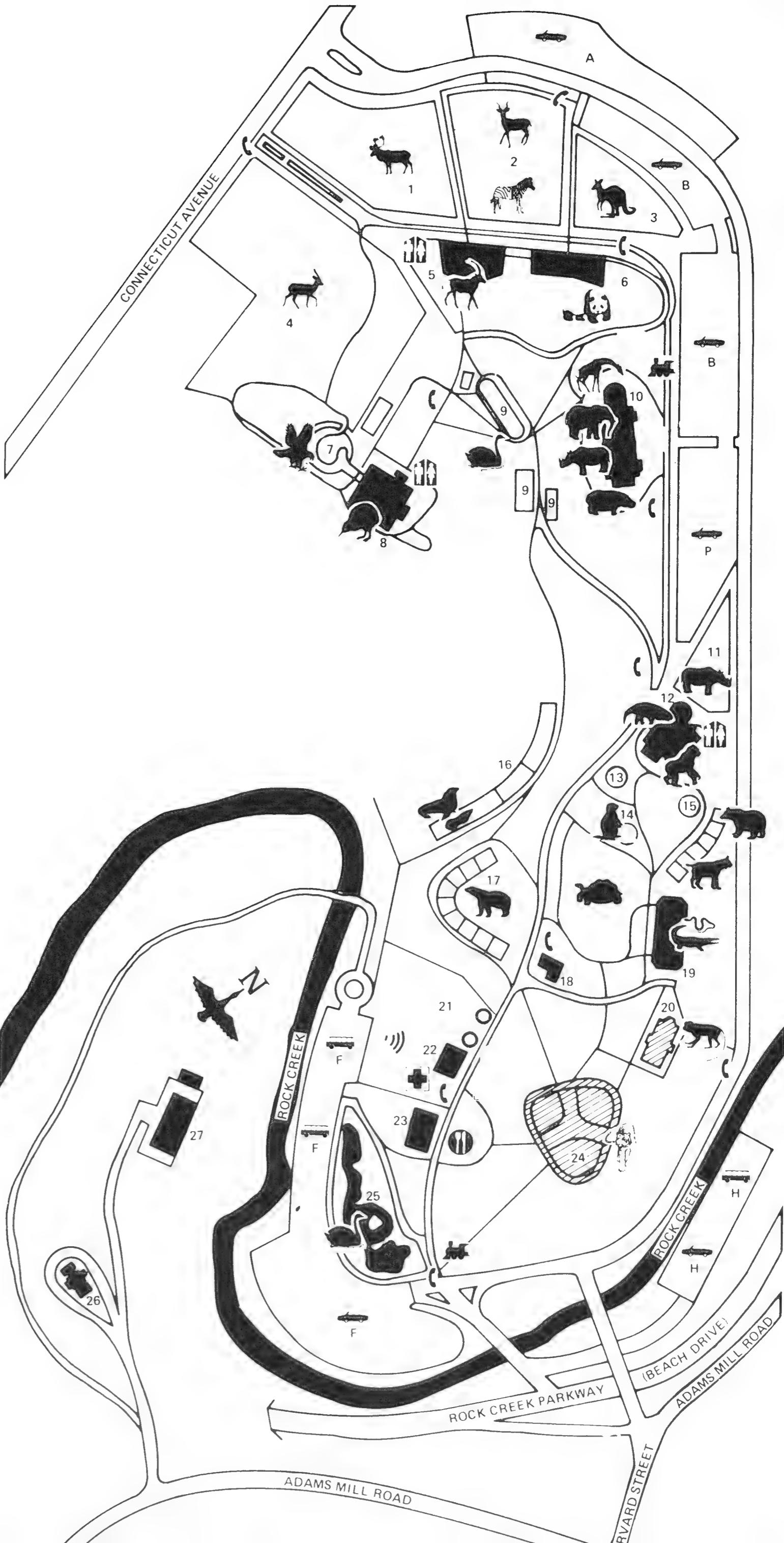
Animal	Food Consumed
<b>Per Day:</b>	
Indian Rhinoceros	20 quarts of grain; 2 loaves bread; 25 pounds mixed greens and vegetables; 20 pounds hydroponic grass; $\frac{3}{4}$ bale hay
Jaguar	7 pounds feline diet (6 days/week); 1 pound ox tails (2 days/week)
Giant Panda	30 pounds bamboo; 2 pans rice & honey gruel (with vitamin-mineral supplements); 18 carrots; 12 apples; 2 sweet potatoes; 8 ounces feline diet; 2 dog biscuits
Argus Pheasant	4 ounces game bird chow; 1 ounce greens; 2 ounces chopped fruit
Bald Eagle	2 rats; 2 trout
Red Lorry	3 ounces chopped fruit; 1 ounce artificial nectar mix
Sea Lion	10 pounds fish
Roloway Guenon	5 ounces primate chow; 2 ounces of monkey chow; carrots; kale; cabbage; beans; 1 vitamin
<b>Per Week:</b>	
Bull Frog	3 pink (young, hairless) mice
Burmese Python	1 rabbit or 1-2 rats (animals are presented these portions weekly but do not always eat)
Day Gecko	2 crickets; 1 large fly; honey mix with vitamin-mineral supplements

# ZOO MAP

## KEY TO THE MAP

- ?
- Information Booth
- +
- Police Station—First Aid
- 🚂
- Trackless Train Stop
- 🚻
- Restrooms
- 🍽️
- Restaurant
- 🎵
- Amphitheater
- 📞
- Telephone
- 🚗
- Parking Lot
- 🚌
- Bus Parking Lot
- 🚧
- Under Construction

- 1 Deer
- 2 African Animals
- 3 Kangaroos
- 4 Deer & Antelope
- 5 Delicate-Hoofed Stock
- 6 Giant Pandas
- 7 Great Flight Cage
- 8 Bird House
- 9 Birds
- 10 Elephant House
- 11 Black Rhinoceros Yard
- 12 Small Mammals—Great Ape House
- 13 Lesser Pandas
- 14 Prairie Dogs
- 15 Mammals
- 16 Sea Lions & Cheetahs
- 17 Bears
- 18 Gift Shop
- 19 Reptile House
- 20 Monkey House
- 21 Siamang Gibbon—Jaguars
- 22 Police—First Aid
- 23 Restaurant
- 24 Lion-Tiger Hill
- 25 Waterfowl Ponds
- 26 Administration Buildings
- 27 Hospital and Research Building



## In the Shadow of a Rainbow

By Robert Franklin Leslie 185 pages.

W. W. Norton and Company, Inc.  
New York, 1974

Veteran readers of wildlife books will find in this one a different dimension. It tells the story of an uncommon relationship between a man and a timber wolf in which the wolf remains totally wolf and fully wild.

The setting is the north-central lake country of British Columbia. Gregory Tah-Kloma, a young Chimmesyan Indian, a graduate student in mineralogy, spends his summers here panning stream beds for tiny nuggets of gold. On Nakinerlak Lake in the summer of 1966, the "great silver she-wolf" first enters Tah-Kloma's life. Nahani, the she-wolf, makes all the overtures to the Indian and the ensuing relationship is all on her terms. Tah-Kloma makes all the concessions which include creeping on all fours when

Nahani and her pack have him under observation. By the end of the summer, the two are sitting together every night by his camp fire and he is permitted to groom her. When the wolves have left the lake and he is preparing to return to school in the fall, Tah-Kloma learns that Nahani is a prime target of bounty hunters. She and her pack of "phantom renegades" are suspected of killing livestock, robbing traps and "now lately people have disappeared." In addition to this catalog of crimes, Nahani and her pack later are accused of being a reservoir of sylvatic rabies. The general populace of British Columbia seem to suffer from certain misconceptions about the nature of rabies which result in an inflationary spiral on the price of Nahani's head.

### Exciting Chase

From this point on the story becomes as exciting a chase as has ever been written with Indians tracking Indian and Indian tracking wolf. Tah-Kloma becomes obsessed with finding Nahani and her pack before the bounty hunters and trappers do. This mission leads him far north into the Stikine country, an area between the Coastal Range and the Rocky Mountains known as the Kitiwanga ("not for men") and consumes two summers and the

winter between.

Although his "hereditary" sense of direction is somewhat dulled by the use of map and compass, Tah-Kloma is enough Indian for any romantic. He tracks, never mind that it is sometimes the wrong wolves, by "a turned pebble, a clawed lichen there, the smell of urine on boundary posts, molt hair inadvertently rubbed off on a tree, hardened summer resin 'clods' clawed from furry foot pads, (and) the remains of prey." He is attuned to the premonitory signals of weather and seasonal change and is completely at home in the natural world. Except for what little dehydrated food he is able to backpack in, he lives off the land, extending and varying his fish stews with herbs and fungi, melting icicles for cooking and drinking water, in winter, and eating the 100 pounds of trout and char he had caught and smoked earlier. He is aware of the habits and life cycles of his neighbors in the wild community around him. We find him observing weasels watchfully waiting to pounce on muskrats leaving the security of their burrows to excrete. We enjoy with him the trials of a mother coyote teaching her young to hunt. We even see him participating in the hibernation of a black bear by sealing her into a hole under his

shack with moss.

Tah-Kloma's relationship with Nahani is the focus of the book and should be sensed and savored rather than analyzed. The author admirably avoids attributing human qualities and motivations to the wolf.

If the book has one fault, and it has, it is that the direct quota-

The remarkable wildlife story of a "great silver she-wolf" and an Indian who risks his life to save her from bounty hunters and trappers is told in the just-published book, *In the Shadow of a Rainbow*.

tions from Tah-Kloma's journal number no more than six or seven. It is unfortunately an "as-told-to" when the reader might prefer slogging through the logs and diary entries, no matter how rough and unliterary. The remarkable story does surmount the author's banal intrusion.

by Eliza Soyster  
**FONZ Docent**



# FONZ NEWS

## We Want Your Friends To Be Our Friends

Starting this spring, the Friends have launched a major publicity drive to urge more people to support their National Zoo through membership in FONZ.

The Friends depend on a growing membership to improve and expand educational programs benefiting our National Zoo.

An exciting series of public service announcements have been produced and distributed to the local media. All are designed to tell the public in an entertaining and educational way the fun and importance of being a FONZ. Soon to appear on local television stations is a series of color, public service films produced for FONZ by a professional television crew.

So also over the next few months, well-known voices will be heard on public service radio messages. Marlin Perkins, star of the "Wild Kingdom" nature programs, taped several announcements as did WMAL's Hardin and Weaver and Renee Cheny of WGMS.

WWDC has kindly run an active, on-air promotion for FONZ including a FONZ bumper sticker slogan contest. The winner will receive a special prize and see his slogan produced as part of the popular FONZ series of car stickers.

Counter-cards urging shoppers to "join the wildest club in town" were placed in more than a hundred outlets of Peoples Drug Store as well as branch offices of National Savings and Trust for the months of March and April.

Letters of invitation are being

sent to area residents over the next few weeks.

Special thanks for this imaginative and comprehensive promotion program go to Membership Committee Chairwoman Nella Manes and her hard-working committee.

You can help too! You know best how worthwhile it is being a FONZ, and what a bargain it is these days of soaring prices. But what about your friends and neighbors?

If every Friend made a new Friend, our membership drive would be an

automatic success. So would you consider taking a moment to help us help support our National Zoo. Just pass on the application form below to an interested friend. Or, if you prefer, nominate several friends and we'll send them a special invitation in your name.

To give you an extra reason to help us make new Friends, we'll send a suitable-for-framing panda print for every new member you make or for every nomination form filled out and returned to us. It's our way of saying thanks for helping us make your friend our Friend.

## Membership Application

### Membership Category:

<input type="checkbox"/> Family \$20	<input type="checkbox"/> Senior Citizen \$5
<input type="checkbox"/> Couple \$15	<input type="checkbox"/> Junior (under 18) \$3
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$10	<input type="checkbox"/> Patron \$100

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Office Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Children & Birthdays (month & year):  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Give a FONZ membership in my name to the above:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

My check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed.

## Nomination Application

As a FONZ member I \_\_\_\_\_ would like to nominate the following people for invitations to join FONZ:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

## Letters to the Editor

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"Congratulations on the new version of the ZooGoer. It is a great improvement over the old version. The features are most interesting and the photos are on a par with any commercial magazine. The front and back covers, especially, show clever, original thinking."

**L.C. Washington, DC**

"I think you goofed identifying the tawny frogmouth as an owl."

**R.B. Maryland**

"You're right, we're wrong! It is a relative of the nighthawks." **Editor**

## Fonz Film Wins Three Emmy Awards

The new FONZ film, "Zoo," captured three of the 30 local LOCAL Emmy awards at the 15th Annual Awards Ceremony recently. The coveted awards are sponsored by the Washington chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences.

In addition to winning the top award for the best independent production of the year, "Zoo" received two craftsmanship awards for best photography and best editing.

Made for FONZ by Northern Virginia Educational Telecommunications Association, the 20-minute color-sound movie was designed to show school children

"Now that the Friends are running Zoo food, why continue to serve junk food?"

**S.R. Virginia**

*"Most zoogoers want fast, snack food, but be assured that the hot dogs and hamburgers are all-beef, the french fries the highest quality available. For the purist, we've added yogurt, fresh fruit, and fresh-cut sandwiches,"*

**Editor**

and other interested audiences what goes on behind-the-scenes at the National Zoo.

Winning awards is getting to be a happy habit for the FONZ film. Several months ago it won a bronze medal at the 1974 New York International Film and Television Festival: Recently, it walked off with a CINE (Council of International Non-Theatrical Events) Golden Eagle entitling it to compete in major film festivals around the world.

FONZ members can be proud knowing that their support through annual dues has helped produce a winning and important educational tool.

## Snowy Owl Is Second Of Special Fonz Prints

The striking portrait of the snowy owls on the opposite page is the second in a series of six special wildlife drawings prepared exclusively for members of the Friends. The limited edition series is the work of Warren A. Cutler, official resident illustrator at the National Zoo and one of the most outstanding wildlife artists in the world.

It is not too late for members to order the complete set of six lithographs, each 18" x 24", printed on the finest available paper, numbered and signed personally by the artist. The first lithograph of the giant pander was featured in the last Zoogoer. Later subjects will include equally popular Zoo residents such as the colobus monkey, jaguars, white tiger, and lesser pandas.

Print collectors may order the complete series of six for \$60 (with their choice of number on a first-come basis) or select individual prints at \$10 each.

FONZ members and friends interested in purchasing this very special series of wildlife prints should send their order and payment to FONZ offices at the Zoo as soon as possible.





Be a modern day Noah Be a FONZ